

SUMMER IS ON ITS WAY!

HOMETOWN PRIDE SHARED COUNTY WIDE! Here it is June already. Before we know it, fair will be here. We've started the fair book and are hoping to have it to the printer by mid-June. We would like to thank all the new Open Class Sponsors, new advertisers, and new vendors who have shown such an incredible interest in our fair this year. We really appreciate everyone's enthusiasm and support. We still have some room for advertising in the fair book so if you would like a spot in the book give us a call (406)684-5824 or go to <http://madison.mt.gov/departments/fairgrounds>.



Our summer has begun with mowing and getting the fairgrounds all shaped up. The flowers are coming and beginning to bloom. We even have a moose who loves our grounds. We have a huge project of rewiring the hog barn. The Swine committee is going to paint the inside of the barn white to help brighten up the inside while Kenworthy Electric will be putting all new wiring in along with caged lights for safety. They have also worked on the big lights and fixed all the broken lights that were been broken and destroyed in the Lewis and Clark Park by the kids. We really appreciate your help.

We have finished putting up the support beams on the back of the grandstands and they look great. A huge thank you to Goodman House Logs for donating these beams along with Bob Lancaster for hand peeling them and getting them up. Stop and look at the new fence behind the grandstands. Another big "thank you" goes to Sheridan Welding (Travis) and Roger's Post and Pole for donating posts and flat iron sheets for the gates and fence, Joe Metully came down and augured the post holes for the new fence, "Thanks, Joe". Bob Lancaster, Gene Holden, and Shane Escott did a wonderful job of welding and getting this project completed. A Thank You goes to the Twin Bridges Road Crew for helping with the drains in front of the barns, moving bleachers, and getting the Karaoke Stage squared up. We have also put in a new tie rack outside of the Beef Breeding Barn and repaired the broken tie racks by the Steer Barn. Check out the new merry-go-round in the Aubrey Brooksle Park which seems to be a big attraction. Another "thanks" to LS Ready Mix for donating concrete for the merry-go-round and post holes. With all the donation support our fair grounds looks superb!

Marilyn Ross and Barbie Durham have been working very hard trying to get some grant monies to restore the big round log building (Pavilion) and the square building (Jeffers) in the front of the fairgrounds. These two buildings are some of the last historical buildings in the state and we get lots of people stopping by to admire the old log buildings.

Sr. Pro Rodeo is just around the corner, June 24 and June 25, 2008. Come and enjoy these rodeos, they are so much fun to watch.

Two of our Fair Board members are recovering from some surgery, Nick Novich and Richard Woods, and our best goes out to them. Get Well Soon!



Don't forget that we've added some new events at the fair this year, August 13-17, 2008. Along with the 4-H events, here are some new things to look forward to.

A carnival is coming!



A Ranch Hand Rodeo put on by Ladder Canyon Ranch on Friday, August 15, 2008, starting at 1 pm. Please contact Nancy Matheson for more information 406-684-5172. Ladder Canyon has

generously decided to donate 10% of the Calcutta monies back to the 4-H council. Your support is greatly appreciated!!

There will be a Dutch Oven Cook Off on Saturday morning, August 16, 2008, beginning at 9 am and the cooking will be judged at noon. This is a great opportunity to do your own cooking, show off your skills, socialize, learn, and have a good time cooking in a Dutch oven. For information please call Jim and Becky DeBoer at 406-842-5446, as they will be organizing this event.

We will be bringing back the Petting Zoo this year with Ann Gornick running it. Any animals brought in must be vaccinated and meet fair approval. For more information call Ann, (406)842-5945.

NRA Rodeo times will be Friday, August 15, at 7 pm and Saturday, August 16, at 1 pm. The Ringling 5 will be performing after the NRA Rodeo on Saturday, August 16, 2008.

Play with Gravity will be putting on four to five shows on Friday and Saturday August 15 and 16, 2008. A 60' motorcycle stunt trailer with trick riders should entertain all ages.

There is some disappointment in all the vandalism taking place on the fairgrounds.

Unfortunately due to this, we have had to put additional gates up and lock them. These grounds are open to the public and for everyone to enjoy. Why break lights, tear wood off the buildings, break the wooden benches and tip them over, break into the buildings, break all the light bulbs out of the buildings, tear the awning off of the Close Up Booth, and pry the hasps and hooks loose, or mess with the sound system for the arena? Is it necessary to drive on the walking path with a car, or let the roping steers out? Do you think it is funny to shoot off fireworks in the grandstands? Remember there are parks for little kids to play at and the speed limit is not 40 or 50 mph through the fair grounds. Do you know where your teenagers are at night? Check out behind the red horse barn, if they are missing. Let's be proud of what we have to offer to the public and take care of this facility!

In conclusion, if I have missed anyone who has donated or helped out, let this be a "Thank You" for all your help. I look forward to a great summer!

